

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6943**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 211**

**NOTE PREPARED: Feb 16, 2004**

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Twenty-First Century Fund Grant Office.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Ford

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Hasler

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                          **X DEDICATED**  
                          **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill requires the Indiana 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund Board to establish and administer a Grant Office to work with federal agencies, state agencies, units of local government, colleges and universities, and private sector entities to develop and receive research and development grants.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2004.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill creates a Grant Office to be administered by the Indiana 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund Board beginning July 1, 2004. The bill provides that the Grant Office assist state agencies, units of local government, public and private colleges and universities, private sector for-profit and nonprofit entities, and other entities in Indiana in researching, developing, and receiving grants and funding from the federal government, private foundations, or any other funding source.

The bill requires the Grant Office to work with and coordinate its activities with state, university, and private entities that identify and acquire R&D grants and funding. The bill specifies that the Grant Office share information and jointly market its programs with these entities, and leverage the skills and assets of these entities. The bill also requires the Grant Office to serve as a clearinghouse for information concerning: (1) available research and development grant funding sources, and (2) certain Indiana public and private entities that might benefit from federal and private R&D grants. These clearinghouse functions could potentially be performed electronically via an Internet website as has been done in other states (e.g., Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, and Wisconsin) and by higher education institutions. Such a website could be created and maintained by existing staff. The bill also *authorizes* the Grant Office to assist potential recipients of federal or private R&D funding in preparing grant applications and other documentation. As this provision does not require the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Board to undertake such assistance, it will have no fiscal

impact unless the Board chooses to pursue this assistance with additional staff. Under current statute the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Board may use money in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund to cover administrative expenses. Currently, three administrative staff members are employed by the Board.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Indiana 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund Board.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Kelly Streepy, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Technology Fund Board, (317) 233-4332.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Jim Landers, 317-232-9869.